Application No. 09/987,327 Amdt. Dated December 9, 2003 Reply to Office Action of September 25, 2003 Docket No. 8003-1025

REMARKS

The application has been amended and is believed to be in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action.

There are no formal matters outstanding.

Claims 1-55 were pending.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation that the Official Action indicated that claims 17, 39, and 55 are directed to allowable subject matter.

In reliance thereupon, these recitations have been added to their respective independent claims, i.e., to claims 1, 19, and 21. Claims 17, 39, and 55 have been cancelled.

Therefore, as independent claims 1, 19, and 21 include the recitations of allowable claims 17, 39, and 55 respectively, allowance of all the claims is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted, YOUNG & THOMPSON

Roland E. Long, Jr., Reg. 41,949

745 South 23rd Street

Arlington, VA 22202

Telephone (703) 521-2297 Telefax (703) 685-0573

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